



LITERACY B.C. NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1994

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 1

NATIONAL LITERACY SECRETARIAT FUNDING

In the speech from the Throne it was announced that funding for the National Literacy Secretariat has been increased to its original level by the new Liberal government. As a first step towards tackling the problem the government emphasized that support for literacy programs will continue.

A Movement for Canadian Literacy survey, conducted last year, ranked the restoration of the previous funding for the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS) the number one priority. The NLS funds literacy research and promotes partnerships between business, labour, governments and other institutions in order to improve literacy in Canada.

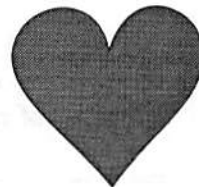
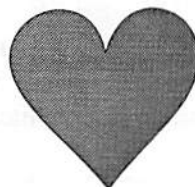
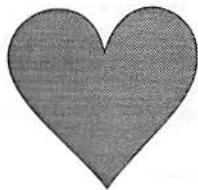
We salute Prime Minister Chretien for showing leadership on this issue as well as Senator Joyce Fairbairn, Leader of the Government in the Senate and Minister with special responsibility for Literacy, for her years of work as an advocate on literacy issues. This is a strong signal that the government is serious about literacy.

LITERACY ACTION DAY February 17

Last year literacy programs and organizations across the country sent Valentines to Minister Gerry Weiner for Love Literacy Day. This year MCL is organizing a Literacy Action Day on February 17. An information fair featuring programs and issues being addressed in each province will be set up on parliament hill in Ottawa.

Activities will include an opportunity for national literacy organizations to meet MP's and an Open House Exhibit and Reception. All Members of Parliament, local literacy organizations and other interested parties will be invited to an exhibit that highlights reports from literacy organizations. Senator Joyce Fairbairn and members of each caucus will be invited to a presentation on the state of literacy in Canada.

Audrey Thomas, president of Literacy B.C., has written to Senator Joyce Fairbairn and the Prime Minister on the news that funding for literacy has been restored and on the appointment of Joyce Fairbairn to the Senate with special responsibility for literacy.



NEWS FROM ACROSS B.C.

PROJECT LITERACY ABBOTSFORD MATSQUI

CONTACT: Stephanie Glaspie
PHONE: 792-3385
FAX: 792-7591

Project Literacy Abbotsford/Matsqui has been involved in three exciting projects over the past year. **WOMEN TOGETHER** has been a cost-shared program for spouses and/or partners of men in correctional institutes. Approximately 12 women have been enrolled in this literacy and life skills program. The project is now supported by the Soroptimists and the John Howard Society.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING is a tutor program which involves pre-release inmates at Ferndale Institute. Three alternate schools in Abbotsford and Mission are involved with the program. The project involves training inmate tutors, providing ongoing support to them and matching them with students in ongoing programs. Partners in this project include: Project Literacy Abbotsford/Matsqui; Mission Literacy Association; Ferndale Institute; School Districts #33 and #34 and the University College of the Fraser Valley.

Another partnership has been developed with the Seven Oaks Mall. In 1993 the Mall focused on literacy. Reading tents were organized, local children's writers were invited to read from their work, activities leading up to International Literacy Day (Sept. 8) were developed and workshops were held for parents on creative ways to read to young children.

COMMUNITY ADULT LITERACY & LEARNING SOCIETY (CALLS)

CONTACT: Linda Cooney
PHONE: 338-9906
FAX: 338-4452

TUTORING PROGRAM: Our program is funded by the Ministry of Social Services for any interested adult members of our community with low literacy skills. We

have 15 volunteer tutors. Half are our "pioneer" tutors and half completed their training in December. We average 25 students at a time, who attend 80 tutoring sessions per month collectively over an average 110 hours per month. Our tutoring sessions are held at our Adult Learning Centre. Our Centre will be celebrating one year of tutoring on March 9th.

Our tutor coordinator, Sally Gellard, works half time and teaches part of our employment course as well.

UPGRADING AND EMPLOYMENT CLASS: Sponsored by the local Canada Employment Centre, we are running 2 classes of 16 weeks until July 94. Each class has 9 students. The classes are 30 hours per week. Our instructor, Barb LePage, is an adult basic education teacher with 3 years experience as an employment counsellor.

The students have formed a committee to provide support for one another and to organize events. They meet each Wednesday afternoon.

CALLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The main focus for the Board is raising funds for the operation of the Centre in between programs. Our Board speaks to service clubs, who have donated \$300 this year. They have also sent requests for donations through mail-outs and are sponsoring a booth at the Film Festival with a raffle basket full of reading "goodies." We also had a successful Christmas raffle.

The Royal Bank in Courtenay has donated a computer to our tutoring program.

FORT ST. JOHN LITERACY SOCIETY

CONTACT: David Griffiths
PHONE: 785-6981
FAX: 785-1294

The Fort St. John Literacy Society is planning another busy spring. We have an ongoing project funded by Northern Lights College, Canadian Forest Products Limited and the unions at their mills in Taylor and Fort St. John. Employees from the mills are upgrading to th

NEWS FROM ACROSS B.C.

grade twelve level. Currently, we have 13 learners, and potential tutors to serve the reluctant learners and create learning materials for the workplace. We hope that we will be able to expand the program next year.

Our second annual Learners Fair will be held during the Education Week March 11th. We are inviting various educational institutions in the community to participate by bringing in displays and information. This is designed to allow adult learners to see what is available to them in the Fort St. John area. There will also be three panel discussions during the day. The first will be a learner panel discussing the successes and difficulties of returning to school. The second will be about possible educational and employment opportunities in the future. The final panel will be on how to produce a book of learner written materials.

Our other major event of the spring is the Second Annual Gala Reading Night. This event will bring readers from across the community to celebrate literacy. We also hope to have a major star as a musical guest. The Gala is designed to promote an awareness of literacy in the community and to raise funds for Fort St. John Literacy Society.

FRASER VALLEY EAST LITERACY ASSOCIATION

CONTACT: Jim Hall
PHONE: 792-2959
FAX: 792-6575

Fraser Valley East Literacy Association has been very active over the past year. The Speakers Bureau is continuing and the Association is in the process of formulating new projects for the upcoming year.

FAMILIES IN MOTION is a new community program for families in Chilliwack. The program supports parents as their children's first and most important teachers by bringing families together to learn and participate in activities.

The FAMILIES IN MOTION program is funded by the B.C. Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour and the National Literacy Secretariat. Partner agencies include:

Chilliwack Community Services; the Skwah Band; School District #33; Fraser Valley Regional Library; Fraser Valley East Literacy Association; Chilliwack Landing Pre-School and University College of the Fraser Valley.

The program is open to parents, grandparents, caregivers and their preschoolers who wish to expand their horizons. Quality pre-school experience is provided by Joanne Smith and Kathy Cherry and the program coordinator is Barbara Bate. Preschoolers in the program work on social skills and decision-making and adults focus on both academic and parenting skills.

PROJECT LITERACY HOUSTON

CONTACT: Lynn Florey
PHONE: 845-2727
FAX: 845-3521

ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING PROGRAM

This program is continuing to run with between 4 to 6 pairs tutoring at any one time and approximately 4 new learners per month entering the program. There are now 47 trained tutors, with 12 currently tutoring.

HEALTH FOR ALL PROGRAM

This program, a cost-shared project, is to help Health, Medical and Service agencies be aware of the problems that low literacy adults encounter when trying to access these services. Workshops in April and June centred on Awareness and Plain Language.

More workshops are planned for the Spring.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

We have received our funding for this project and plan to implement it during the spring. It consists of 12 workshops on topics such as: banking, using the post office, using medical services, taking a driving test, writing résumés. These workshops are open to the whole community but will be planned with low literacy and ESL adults in mind. Our aim is also to involve the agencies hosting the workshops in literacy and its implications for their services.

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LINC PROJECT

We have just started our LINC project (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada). Funding was received through EIC, Immigration and Settlement to hold two part-time classes for 23 weeks in language instruction. These classes are open to any landed immigrants and our current number of students is 22. This only began in January and is still in its very early stages.

INVERGARRY ADULT LEARNING CENTRE

CONTACT: Cindy Kugel
PHONE: 584-5424
FAX: 584-0251

The literacy program at the Invergarry Adult Learning Centre is a large program with well over 200 learners each day, eight paid staff and over 30 volunteers. In addition, there is an evening literacy program which is very popular. Most of the learners work one on one with their instructor so the program can accommodate a wide range of student levels and needs. Learners may also supplement their studies with group work and independent study. Invergarry is a friendly, relaxed centre where visitors are always welcome. For more information, call or drop by the centre at:
9260 - 140th Street, Surrey, B.C.

KAMLOOPS LITERACY ASSOCIATION

CONTACT: Johanna Walters
PHONE: 372-2256

A dream and thought resulted in a classroom at the Kamloops Foodbank. This innovative, six-month pilot program serves the needs of people who do not have the basic skills or opportunity to access other literacy programs in the community.

Besides building the trust of Foodbank clients and providing a welcome to learning, the Literacy Coordinator, Johanna Walters, is training volunteer tutors and matching them with learners.

Further thought indicated a need to connect other existing literacy programs by forming a Kamloops Literacy Association. The mission of this Association is to promote literacy and to offer a united approach to literacy in the Kamloops community.

The thought and dream is to establish the Association in a store-front location while continuing to keep the classroom at the Foodbank in operation. Recently, Mary Thompson Boyd, of Literacy B.C., was in Kamloops to help the Association with these projects.

LITERACY KITIMAT

CONTACT: Janette Camazzola
PHONE: 632-3139
FAX: 632-3368

Literacy Kitimat has a contract with Northwest Community College which covers the expenses of operating costs. Coordination is done on a volunteer basis by Janette Camazzola.

Currently there are fifteen volunteer tutors. Five tutors attended the October training session and there are two tutors in training. There are eight anglophone students and 10 ESL students. Our tutors are all trained using our own tapes and manual. Extra instruction was necessary this year as many of the new students needed reading, writing and spelling skills in English as a Second language.

We provide help for students from the Regionally Initiated Special Employment (R.I.S.E.) and Youth Employment Skills (Y.E.S.) programs run by Kitimat Community Services Society. This includes assessments, informal assistance and direct teaching when requested.

We also assist high school students who have been suspended and want to continue their education.

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LAUBACH LITERACY OF CANADA

CONTACT: Crystal Lee
PHONE: 685-8066

Laubach is in its fifth year in B.C. There are currently 7 Councils in B.C.: Vancouver, Richmond, Golden, Chase, Kamloops, Victoria and Surrey/White Rock.

Training tutors is ongoing, and as the need arises we give training to volunteer tutors in basic literacy and ESL. Approximately 135 tutors and students are working together in all 7 Councils.

Laubach is unique in that we have core material for training tutors and for tutors to use with their students. These materials are produced by New Readers Press and sold worldwide as our organization is International.

Laubach B.C. is in the process of forming a Provincial Organization and in the spring are planning to host a conference that will be learner-oriented.

MISSION LITERACY ASSOCIATION

CONTACT: Heather Stewart
PHONE: 820-3369
FAX: 820-3369

The Annual General Meeting of the Mission Literacy Association was held January 17, 1994 in the board room of the Mission Association of Community Living.

Guest speaker for the occasion was Joan MacLatchy. A former Mission high school teacher, she now conducts assessments of newly-sentenced offenders for Corrections Canada, Pacific Region. She gave a detailed account of her work and an explanation of the assessment tool, Structure of Intellect (SOI).

The Association's primary activity during the past year has been its reading program in three alternate schools. Glen Flett co-ordinates the program that has trained day parolees from Ferndale Institution to tutor students in

Abbotsford and Mission. Reports from teachers and from Ferndale expressed mutual satisfaction with this initiative. In 1994, the Association will seek funding to continue this successful tutoring program.

The Mission Literacy Association has plans for 1994 to extend its membership by developing a variety of larger Board of Directors with a community representation.

LITERACY NANAIMO

CONTACT: Carolyn McWhinnie
PHONE: 754-8988
FAX: 741-3223

Literacy Nanaimo continues to operate its downtown drop-in Centre. The Centre also provides information and resources for tutors, learners and the public.

In partnership with Malaspina College, there is a full time volunteer tutor coordinator. The salary for the Coordinator is cost shared between Literacy Nanaimo and Malaspina College.

In the past year, the Tutor Coordinator met and matched 167 adult learners. It was interesting to note that 103 of the 167 worked together for only 3 months. There are currently 70 tutor/learner pairs.

Literacy Nanaimo has received a real increase in requests from the community for workshops and speakers on literacy. A "Reader Friendly" program has also been developed which includes sensitivity workshops for groups of frontline employees eg: banktellers, social workers etc.

We are also involved in the planning for a downtown adult learning centre along with the College, School District, Social Services and Canada Employment.

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NECHAKO REGION LITERACY TASK FORCE

CONTACT: Sarah Peake/Pam Gregg
PHONE: 567-9739
FAX: 567-9746

The Nechako Region Literacy Task Force was formed last year. Our membership includes a wide representation of the communities in our region. Community agencies, employees of mills, RCMP officers and library staff are some of the members of the Task Force. We are currently in the process of becoming the Nechako Literacy Society and have submitted an application for a cost-shared project. The Task Force has been very active this year. The local newspaper has dedicated a page a week to literacy. The literacy page highlights what is happening in adult centres in our area. Learners contribute writing to the literacy page and students in centres are often featured in the articles.

Recently a group of students have put in a proposal for a learners' event. Another project involves good representation from the region in the organization of a career fair.

PROJECT LITERACY PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM

CONTACT: Liz Campbell
PHONE: 248-4041/4042
FAX: 248-4042

Projects and Programs:

- Two 36-hour volunteer tutor training courses completed, 40 tutors trained (in partnership with Malaspina College).
- 65 basic literacy students matched with a tutor; 56 ESL students matched and/or placed in conversation groups.
- completed six-month contract with Employment and Immigration Canada to provide orientation courses for new immigrants.
- Produced bi-weekly literacy section in Parksville/Qualicum News (sponsored by the Vancouver Foundation).

- the Write Place literacy services centre: 536 clients assisted with scribe services, tutor/student enquiries, literacy information, problem-solving and referrals.
- publication of updated brochure and four editions of our Newsletter, The Write Review.
- continued community/media liaison and outreach, staff development, attendance at conferences and workshops.
- friends of Project Literacy formed, to organize fundraising and events.

Future plans:

To continue to provide:

- volunteer tutor training courses (in partnership with Malaspina College).
- one-to-one tutoring and conversation groups
- scribe services through The Write Place.
- public awareness of literacy issues in District 69.

PROJECT LITERACY RICHMOND

CONTACT: Betty MacLeod
PHONE: 276-4128
FAX: 276-4098

Project Literacy Richmond has participated in several mall displays, (Richmond Cultural Centre on Richmond Newcomers Day and a Women's Forum held at Kwantlen College by the Richmond Women's Resource Centre). For the past two years, we have taken part in the Canada Day Parade during the Steveston Salmon Festival as well as having a booth at the festival. This year, we arranged for performances by the Richmond Academy of Performing Arts of a play based on one of Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales". An exuberant group of teenagers in medieval costume entertained passers-by with their version of "The Pardoner's Tale" which included pilgrims puzzling over signs along the road which they have trouble reading.

In April, partly for community awareness about literacy and partly to give public recognition to those who have helped Project Literacy Richmond in the past, we took part in an awards ceremony honouring winners of the 1992 Richmond Young Writers Contest. Before those awards were handed out, we presented copies of "The

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"Wind Cannot Read" to the Mayor for his support of literacy in allowing a literacy display at City Hall and for declaring Literacy Week; to Doug Hanna, Region Manager of Matsushita Electric of Canada Ltd. for the donation of the combination video/TV unit which we have used in displays and in tutor-training sessions; to Richard Redfern for donating the proceeds of the 1992 Redfern Charity Golf Tournament (\$780), and to Malcom Brodie, President of the Rotary Sunrise Club which donated \$500. These donations were used to purchase books for literacy tutors being trained by our member group, the Richmond-Delta Council of Laubach Literacy Canada.

During the summer, one of our members and another volunteer met regularly with two young Iranian boys whose mother was afraid they would forget how to read and speak English during the summer break.

We hosted a video presentation of "Ellen's Story" in September on a big screen TV at the Richmond Cultural Centre, with a performance of the play "Marks on Paper" by the young actors of the Richmond Academy of Performing Arts. An audience of 75 thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

The 1993 Redfern Charity Golf Tournament resulted in a donation of \$1,000. In December, we donated a \$75 cheque to the winner of the 1993 Richmond Young Writers Contest.

Two of our members have been meeting with a librarian to plan a staff-sensitization workshop which is intended to help public staff recognize persons who may be hiding a literacy problem and to suggest ways of dealing with the situation.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS HAIDA GWAI LITERACY GROUP

CONTACT: Vicki Bragan
PHONE: 557-4425
FAX: 557-4461

There is a lot of enthusiasm on the Queen Charlotte Islands as the literacy group begins tutor training and

proposals for future projects. A two-day introductory tutor training session was held in November. A couple of follow-up events have been held since then. Seventeen people were at the first tutor training session and at least 40 people have expressed interest in becoming involved.

There is a broad-based support throughout the Islands' communities for the tutor training and proposed future projects. The literacy group would like to have regular evenings open at a learning centre for people to work either one-on-one or in small groups.

The group is presently working on incorporating as a society and deciding on a name. For more information contact:

Vicki Bragan
Box 272,
Port Clements, B.C. V0T 1R0.

PROJECT LITERACY GREATER VANCOUVER

CONTACT: Thomas Quigley
PHONE: 665-3559
FAX: 665-2265

Project Literacy Greater Vancouver (PLGV) continues to hold regular meetings, usually with a featured speaker. For example, we had Patty Bossort on the Literacy Cost-Shared Project Program, Carnegie held an Open House, and Mary Thompson Boyd will be speaking on Literacy B.C. in February. Other upcoming spring '94 meetings will feature speakers on advocacy and francophone literacy.

It is exploring partnerships for the current round of Cost-Shared Project Proposals and it is doing initial work around organizing a major public event for International Literacy Day (Sept. 8).

PLGV is also working with the local library community in organizing a Literacy Open House Self-Guided Tour for delegates during the Canadian Library Association Conference in Vancouver in June, and is investigating the potential of the Vancouver FREENet for promoting the literacy issue.

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PLGV has also been attending the meetings that have been called to explore the organization of a "Word on the Street" event in Vancouver, parallel to the successful Toronto event.

PLGV has a new mailing address:
P.O. Box 48955
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A8

PROJECT LITERACY VICTORIA

CONTACT: Diane Carson
PHONE: 381-3755
FAX: 381-4911

At our Annual General Meeting in October, Project Literacy Victoria said thank you to founding members Audrey Thomas and Audrey Farnden as well as chairman Willie Blondé. All three of these Board members have made outstanding contributions to Project Literacy Victoria over the last few years and have promised to continue to be involved. The new Board began their term of office with a potluck dinner where they received Board Manual binders and participated in an exercise to review our mission and goals. The fundraising committee has concentrated on a casino in December and a phone book recycling project in January.

The Learners Network, which is the volunteer tutor program of Project Literacy Victoria, welcomed 18 newly trained tutors in November, bringing our roster of active tutors up to 65. Tutors and learners are now busy interviewing and selecting new volunteers for another tutor training course to begin in February. This spring some of our learners will be training to be public speakers helping with our public awareness efforts.

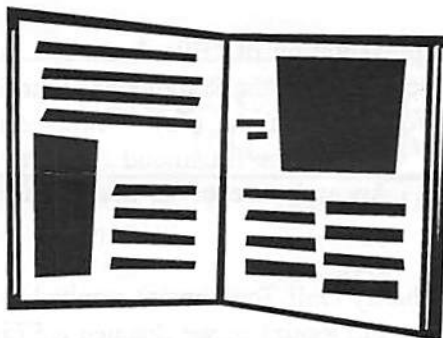
PROJECT LITERACY WEST KOOTENAY

CONTACT: Judy Wearmouth
PHONE: 365-7765
FAX: 365-8566

We continue to provide a volunteer tutoring program in

several communities. After struggling through 1992/3 with almost no funding, we were delighted to learn in September that Selkirk College would provide \$16,000 for tutor training and co-ordination. Two training sessions in the fall graduated 21 tutors, and more training sessions are planned. A co-ordinator in Nakusp has just joined those in Trail, Nelson and Castlegar with a few hours a week of paid time. This is still a temporary measure. The funding ends in March, with no assurance of future support.

However, learners continue to apply and an encouraging number move on to College programs. We have wonderful volunteers and solid support from our public libraries and the College. We are planning a Learner Event in April and our second annual Book and Bake Sale in May.



NEW RESOURCES

Math Shop: The Lighter Side of Numbers.

This telecourse is designed as a supplement to most high school level algebra courses or for adult learners returning to the study of mathematics after a number of years. Using a step-by-step approach, hosts Christine Lippa and Kanwal Neel look at the everyday applications of mathematics. Available from the Open Learning Agency. Call toll free 1-800-663-1663.



Hyperware:

Integrative Software for Adult Language Learners.

This self-paced, literacy software is designed to enhance learner-tutor interaction in the reading and writing processes. Hyperware is available in both Macintosh and DOS versions and provides the instructor with useful teaching strategies and suggested objective

NEW RESOURCES

Also available from the Open Learning Agency. Toll free number:

1-800-663-1663. Fax: 431-3333.



Set Your Dreams Free, a publication of Wordstream, is a new collection of writings. The people who worked on **Set Your Dreams Free** came from different cultural backgrounds and from four different ABE programs. Their message is a very positive one, combining the mythology of the dreamcatcher with the importance of following one's dreams for the individual and the community's overall health.

To order contact: Suzanne Ives, Victoria READ

720 Linden Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

V8V 4G7

Phone: 388-7225 Fax: 386-8330



The Program Based Research Special Interest Group in London, Ontario has two new publications for sale. **Seek, Gather and Process** is a research manual for literacy programs (\$15.00) and **Seek, Gather and Report** is an occasional paper describing experiences in program based literacy research (\$7.50). To order contact:

Donna Miniely at (519) 434-9219. One copy of each publication is available for loan from Literacy B.C.



CHANGING FOCUS: Building Confidence and Competence in Adults with Reading Disabilities is a new resource package available from Parkland Regional College, 72 Melrose Avenue, Yorkton, Saskatchewan S3N 1Z2. This kit is designed for those individuals who are responsible for, or involved with the training of literacy personnel who are working with adult learners. The kit contains workshop leader's instructions and procedures, suggested commentary for workshop leaders, masters for overheads and handouts and two instructional videotapes. The resource kit is available for \$150.00 from the above address. One copy is available for loan from Literacy B.C.

JUST ASK! A handbook for adult educators of students being treated for mental disorders and for mental health workers, this book provides basic information on how major mental disorders and the drugs used to treat them create difficulties for learning. It also gives information on how the mental health system affects students' participation in learning activities, and it suggests training activities that prepare instructors to work with students effectively. Students being treated for mental disorders, their instructors, literacy program coordinators and mental health workers describe specific learning needs and provide strategies that they use to meet these needs. An extensive resource guide is included.

Available for \$12.95 from Temeron Books Inc.

210-1220 Kensington Rd. NW

Calgary, AB T2N 3P5.

Fax: (403)283-6947.



Northern Family Health Society in partnership with the College of New Caledonia (CNC) has produced a **LEAP GAME KIT AND MANUAL**. Representatives of several community agencies were involved with the development, production and pretesting of the **LEAP GAME KIT**. Funding was provided through a cost-shared grant. The Kit includes a card game used to reinforce choices and consequences that occur in daily life - paying bills, saving money and making decisions; and a series of treasure hunts designed to assist adults in gaining the knowledge and skills to perform life skills independently. For more information contact:

Northern Family Health Society

144 George St.

Prince George, B.C. V2L 1P9.

Fax: 563-0924.



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LEARNING DISABILITIES WEEK MARCH 6 - 12, 1994.

This week has been designated Learning Disabilities Week in B.C. The Learning Disabilities Association of B.C., Vancouver Chapter, has focussed on targeted areas to promote better understanding and greater public awareness of learning disabilities. The Learning Disabilities Association of B.C. provides an information and referral service and direct programs for individuals with learning disabilities, families, professionals and agencies. They can be contacted at: Suite 909, 750 W. Broadway
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1H1
Phone: 873-8139.



CANADIAN GIVE THE GIFT OF LITERACY FOUNDATION

The Canadian Give The Gift of Literacy Foundation is now accepting applications for 1994. Funding is available to all non-profit groups in the form of SEED GRANTS (up to \$2,500) for the development and research of new publications; and PRODUCTION GRANTS (up to \$5,000) for the completion of more thoroughly formed projects.

The deadline for applications is **June 30, 1994**. If you require any further information, please contact:
Canadian Give The Gift of Literacy Foundation
35 Spadina Road, Toronto, ON M5R 2S9. Fax: (416)975-1839.
Phone: (416)975-9366.

1994 REGIONAL LEARNER EVENTS

This year 38 events have been accepted for funding. The learner events cover three themes: field trips, career exploration and working with groups to encourage students to stay in school. One group in Cranbrook has combined all three themes in their project: they will be taking a field trip to Lethbridge, looking into career options, and an essay contest will be held to help decide which students will be able to go to Lethbridge. For more information contact:
Joyce Cameron
Phone: 527-5416
Fax: 527-5095

NEW ADULT EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAM

The University College of the Fraser Valley (UCFV), in partnership with the Open Learning Agency, will be offering a Bachelor of Arts degree in Adult Education. The degree is designed for people involved in the education and training of adults. The purpose of the degree is to enhance the adult learners knowledge, skill and appreciation of adult education.

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Adult Education is designed primarily for people presently working with adult learners. Initially the program is being offered on a part-time basis only. The Degree program has been approved by the University College of the Fraser Valley and is in the process of being approved by the Open Learning Agency. It is still subject to approval by the Ministry of Skills Training and Labour, Province of British Columbia. This approval is expected in April or May, 1994.

Adult learners accepted into the program have the opportunity to receive academic credits for their prior

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learning. The Prior Learning Assessment system at JCFV evaluates learning and grants credits to adults who have achieved a level of learning that is equivalent to that which would usually be acquired through formal study at the post-secondary level.

For information on how to apply to the Degree program and on advanced credit contact:

University College of the Fraser Valley
33844 King Rd., RR#2
Abbotsford, BC, V2S 4N2
Continuing Education Division
Phone: (604) 854-4538, Fax: 855-7618.

BRAILLE NATIVE LANGUAGE PROJECT

The Canadian Braille Literacy Foundation would like to encourage a focus on the literacy needs of blind and severely visually impaired aboriginal people in Canada. The Foundation is inviting proposals for funding for a project which would address these needs.

Up to \$10,000 could be available for proposals which meet the CBLF objectives.

Proposals must be submitted by **March 31, 1994.**

For application forms or more information contact:

Linda Studholme
Director of Rehabilitation
320 McLeod Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1A3
Phone: 613-563-4021
Fax: 613-232-9070

LITERACY B.C. SUMMER INSTITUTE 1994

In early December 500 Needs Assessments were mailed to literacy practitioners in B.C., the Yukon, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Over 15% responded to the Needs Assessment. A tremendous response! Thank you.

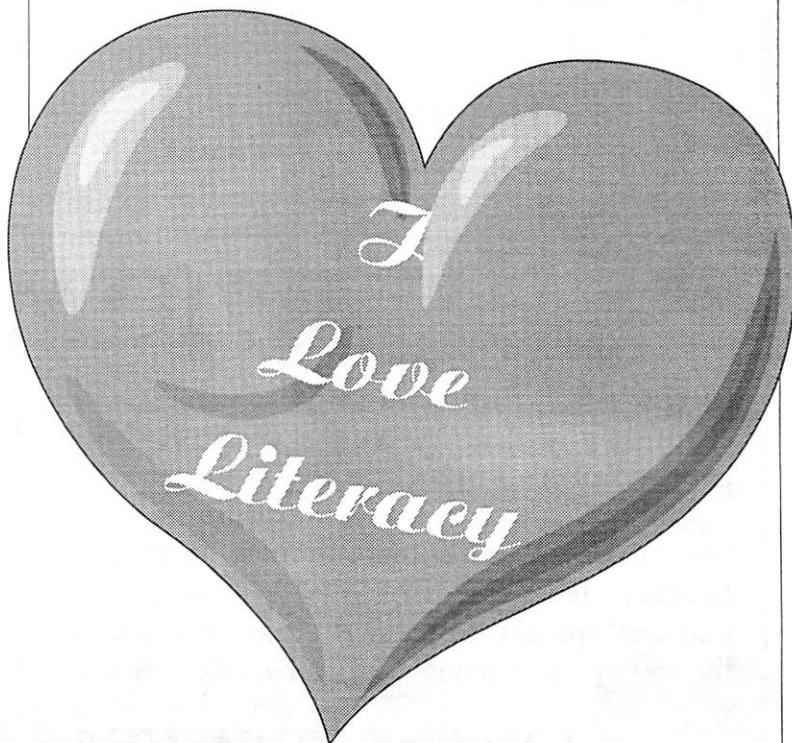
The Summer Institute will be held from July 4 - 15, 1994 at Simon Fraser University. Accommodation will be shared and meals will be provided. Registration will be limited to 60 people; 30 from B.C. and the Yukon and 30 from the prairie provinces.

Participants will be able to attend the Institute for either one week or two weeks. Three courses will be offered:

- Literacy Development
- Workplace Training
- Issues in Adult Literacy Work.

Special interest workshops will be offered in the afternoons, and will be open to the public. Brochures, including registration forms, will be available by the end of February. For more information call:

Mary Thompson Boyd
Phone: 687-5077



BULLETIN BOARD

FRONTIER COLLEGE CONTACT PERSON IN B.C.

Erin Soros is the new Associate for Frontier College's READ CANADA program in B.C. READ CANADA is a children's reading program which aims to "hook kids on books" by making sure that children have stories and books in their lives everyday, outside of school. For information and resources on community based reading activities, please contact Erin at:
Britannia Community Services
1661 Napier Street
Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2N1
Phone: (604) 253-4391

A NEW ADDITION TO THE LITERACY B.C. FAMILY

Janice McGrath, who many of you knew as the cheerful voice when you called the Literacy B.C. office, had a beautiful baby boy, Myles Arthur Thomas, on December 24, 1993. The "amazing" Janice was home with her family and new babe in time for Christmas morning!

IN APPRECIATION

THANK YOU, THANK YOU...

The following people have made very generous donations to Literacy B.C. in the past few months:

STEWART FAMILY FUND

COLLEEN MACMILLAN

GEORGE DITCHBURN

JUDI ANGEL

THE EMPLOYEES OF
BUSINESS IN VANCOUVER

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA LAW STUDENTS/ SUPER BOWL POOL

And a very special thank you to all the people who sent a donation along with their membership.

All of this kind and generous support really makes a difference.

THANK YOU!

WHO WE ARE

Literacy B.C., founded in March 1990, is a coalition of people and groups concerned with promoting literacy in B.C.

Our mission is to promote literacy, to support literacy learners, to develop community partnerships and to present a united voice on literacy. We are supported by Human Resources &

Labour Canada, National Literacy Secretariat, memberships and donations. Literacy B.C. welcomes your news and comments.

Send to:

LITERACY B.C.

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